

Polit. Pamph. vol 97.
S O M E

National Grievances,

V I Z.

The Unequalness of Court Pre-
ferments.

The Keeping up the Army.

The S-----l Act.

Unmercifulness to State-Criminals.

Neglect of the Orthodox Clergy.

Considered and fairly Represented in a
L E T T E R to

R--- W--- Esq;

L O N D O N,

Sold by *E. Smith* in *Cornhill*. 1717.

James Oglethorpe

30-51

NATIONAL GUARANTY

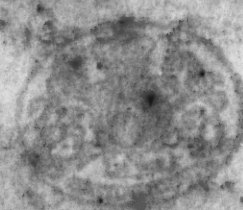
1875

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guaranteeing the

payment of

interest on



*Some National
Grievances re-
presented, &c.*

S I R,



S Gentlemen in
such high Stations
as yours, cannot
possibly be ac-
quainted with the
Complaints and Grumbings of
those of the lower Forms of
Life, but by the Information of
others; and least you should not
be sensible of the present Com-
plaints

complaints of the Nation, and that
 you may be left without Excuse,
 if all our reasonable Grievances
 are not redress'd, I have taken
 upon me, in this publick and
 plain Manner, to make them
 known to you. I shall pretend
 to no Rhetorical Flourishes, nor
 Sophistry, but shall set down,
 as near as possible, the very
 Words of the Complainants:
 It may be asked why these Mat-
 ters should be directed to you,
 more than to any other great
 Man: I shall answer, that as you
 are the Person most rail'd at,
 and abused by the Grumbleto-
 nians at the present Administra-
 tion; so they and all others look
 upon you, as most capable to
 get them Redress: Now, as to
 my own Part, I have no End

in writing this, but that of all *Authors*, (*viz.*) the Good of my Country ; therefore since what I do, is to so good an End only, and not at all with any evil Design, either to reflect on the present Ministry, or sow Sedition amongst His Majesties Subjects, nor any Personal Interest : I do lay down as a Preliminary Article, that you shall not let me suffer any Tribulation, nor be confin'd from wholesome Air, for any Thing I shall mention in this my plain Way : This being agreed upon, I shall begin with the first and greatest Grievance, and in which, most Men think themselves aggrieved, (*viz.*) the unequal Distribution of Court Places : You cannot imagine, Sir, how many Men of great Merit are grumbling up and down this

great City, to see so many prefer'd, and themselves neglected; some that have always voted for the Whigs, others that have always baul'd, and been noisy for them, and others that have silently wished them Success: These all now make loud Pretences, but above all, there are several Gentlemen of the Quill, that call themselves Authors, and with whose Case I am more particularly affected, that find themselves wholly neglected, and who you ought of all others to provide for, lest they should turn the bitter Edge of their Tools against you, and the rest of the Ministry, and then alas for you! take what follows. There's Mr. *John Dunton* has begun to thunder against you already, every Body knows, how service-

serviceable he was to the Nation, in blowing up and discovering the wicked and villainous Designs of the late Ministry, which he found out within six Months after every Body besides knew them: He had certainly been punished by that Ministry, had he not been allowed of all Hands to be mad, tho' it is really hard he is not provided for; but I will not blame you, because I am not sure *Morefields* Preferments are in your Gift. The next is, Mr. *A. B-----*, a Gentleman of very quick Parts. I can tell you, Sir, of my own Knowledge, he is not pleased with you; he has large Pretences, having for five Years last past, with prodigious Industry, labour'd for the Good of his Country, and his own very great Profit, in publishing
Monthly

Monthly Political Observations
on the State of *Great Britain*;
give me leave to tell you, this
Mercurial Gentleman, did not
expect to be at the Trouble of
asking for a Place under a Whig
Ministry, and took it in so
much Dudgeon to find Mr. S----
B----- so well provided for in
the very Post he expected himself,
that he made a rash Resolve, not
to be oblig'd to any of you for
a Place; and the better to pro-
vide for himself, did turn the
best Room in his House into a
Shop, and sold his own Books;
but I believe he is sick of the
Trade, and it's possible it may
not be too late yet, to make
him yours. The next I shall
mention, is the Author of the
Flying Post; it is much wondered
he is not distinguish'd: It was
report-

reported, he was made first Cook in his M-----s Kitchen, but I never believed it, and am well informed it is not so. There are several others that writ in the Whig Cause in the Time of the Popish Ministry, and had their Expectations, but their Works were never much read; so I shall pass them over, and leave to your Judgment, whether the worthy Gentlemen mentioned, are worth retaining or not: There is one Complaint, which, if true, carries some Weight with it, (*viz.*) that there are several Persons still in Places, under his Majesty, that are no great Friends to his Government; but the Blame of this is laid upon the Old Corporal; for my Part, I blame no Body, but pray for a thorough Reformation. I shall dwell

'dwell no longer upon this Head, but conclude it with this Observation, that every Body out of Place think they have more Merit, than those that are in; and very few are willing to serve their Country for nought.

ADDENDA.

The Gentlemen Authors above-mentioned, bid me tell you, they should not have resented their not being preferr'd so much, if S. R---- S-----l, Mr. A-----n, Mr. H. M-----n, and some others, to whom they think themselves in nothing inferior, had not been so suddenly advanced.

Of

Of a Standing Army.

THE Keeping up the Army, is a Topick much talked of amongst the Tories. They say, a Standing Army in *England*, has been always accounted dangerous, and what makes our Liberties very precarious: They say it is keeping a Bridle in the Peoples Mouths, that the Prince may ride them at Pleasure, and that it is a great Charge to the Nation; and all that they can possibly get by it, is Slavery: That there is now less Occasion for it than ever, because we are at perfect Peace with all the World, and that there is no Prospect of a new War: Nay, they say the Whigs themselves have always

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pro-

professed themselves Enemies to
 a Standing Army, and won-
 der they should be so zealous
 for it now, when it is so allow-
 edly against the Interest of the
 Nation ; and it is most certain,
 that these Gentlemen have great
 Reason for what they say ; for
 the Interest of the Nation, upon
 the Schemes they have settled it,
 is certainly in Danger, nay and
 ruined, unless the Army, which
 is a Terrour to his Majesties
 Enemies, be disbanded: for as
 Matters are now managed, a
 poor harmless Fellow cannot
 abuse the King, or any of the
 Royal Family, but presently some
 saucy Red Coat knocks him down,
 or hales him to Justice: nay,
 there has been Complaints from
 several Parts of the Kingd^m,
 besides *Oxford*, against the Inso-
 lence

lence of the Soldiers, for beating and abusing several well-meaning People, only for talking and acting as much Treason, as would have hanged them in the pious Times of *Jacobus Secundus*; and not only that, but the Tories without Doors are apt to believe, if these queer Fellows were disbanded, and dispersed, several worthy Patriots of the **CHURCH PARTY**, would very piously and courageously despise the Septennial Act, and refuse to sit in the House, after the Expiration of the Triennial, unless new chosen; but they will not answer for their Courage, if these tremendous Gentlemen are kept together; and is it not a great Pity, that such worthy Patriots, such zealous Friends to their

Country should be awed, and forced to obey the Laws of the Land, and especially such as they had a Hand in the making of themselves; besides, tho' their Hopes of serving the Pretender are sunk very low, yet they think they have Interest enough among the Mob, if the Army were disbanded, to cause Riots, and make Disturbances enough to occasion a Change in the Ministry, which they most earnestly desire, though a new Set of Men of the same Principles came in their Places; they would be glad to compound that Way, to be revenged of those Men, who have so effectually ruined their Cause, and some of them are sanguine enough to believe there will be a Change in two Years at most; Now I do

do not doubt but your self, and most of the present Ministry, are good Patriots enough to use your utmost Interest in Parliament, to get the Army disbanded, and that speedily, especially when you consider, if it should be kept up two Years more, in all Likelyhood, these good CHURCH Men would never be able to ruin the Nation : They depend upon your utmost Diligence in this Affair, because you are their chief Favourite.

Septennial

Septennial Act.

THE Septennial Act the Tories declaim against most bitterly, as contrary to all Justice; it was what they could never have suspected, it has made the religious Cause of Popery and Jacobitism utterly irretrievable: Was ever any thing so monstrous, as to make such Laws to oppress poor People that were almost undone before? What Chance had they after the Rebels were beaten, destroyed, imprisoned, and hanged? I say, what Chance could the poor distressed Prostitutes of Arbitrary Power have, ever to make any Figure again, but the Hopes of continuing and increasing the Poyson, they had before spread

spread over the Nation, in Order to make good their Interest against the next Election? What Pains did they not take to raise Compassion in the Breasts of the People, for the poor unfortunate Gentlemen, as they call the Rebels: and to be sure, would have spared no Cost to have attain'd their Ends; for considering how many ventured Life and Estate in the Service of the Cause, and how many more we are sure were ready to do it upon the least Encouragement, it is out of the Dispute, whether they would have spent half their Estates to have gained a Parliament to their Mind: Nay, they were so sure, that they began to adjourn their further Endeavours to serve their Master the Pretender till that Time, as
not

not doubting but they should then have an Opportunity to do it effectually: Therefore since Things are thus, it is hoped they may be allowed to complain, they have nothing else left for it, this was their great and potent Cordial; so if you are not resolved wholly to prevent them from ruining or disturbing the Nation, and utterly to crush that Party that has for so many Years been undermining the Liberties of the People, you must get this Act repealed; they will be very much obliged to you: If you will do them this small Piece of Service, it will ease them in all Circumstances of Life: They cannot hear it named without grinning, it makes them bite their Nails, stamp, and what

what not: So pray Sir, if you
 have any Christian Charity, con-
 sider what Set of Men this
 Act is a Grievance too, and
 relieve them as they deserve.

Next, of more exten-
 sive Nature, than the Complaint
 of the Inconvenience of the present
 Government towards State Of-
 ficers: and in Truth, no
 Man can well say it is altogether
 that grounds, for let us but
 consider a little, and we must
 allow, that it is the fault, the
 fault of all sorts, both in the
 and the whole, had been used with
 severer Discipline: it had kept
 them in more awe, and
 preventing too much upon the
 great Clemency of the Govern-
 ment towards Persons convicted
 of Riots, a thing of the best
 of Kings, and relating and a-
 bundant.

D**Unmer-**

*Unmercifulness to State
Criminals.*

NOTHING has made a greater, or more extensive Bustle, than this Complaint of the Inclemency of the present Government towards State Offenders: and in Truth, no Man can well say it is altogether groundless; for let us but consider a little, and we must allow, that if at the first, the Tories of all Sorts, both Male and Female, had been used with severer Discipline, it had kept them in more Awe; and several presuming too much upon the great Clemency of the Government, towards Persons convicted of Riots, reviling of the best of Kings, and insulting and abusing

busing his Ministry: I say, many presuming too much upon this, have fallen into the same villanous Practice, (which more Severity might have prevented) whereby they have ruined themselves and Families; and in this, and this Sense only, can I conceive any Room to accuse his Majesty or his Ministry of Severity. I am sure they can have no Reason to complain on this Head, in Relation to the Rebels; if they will please to consider in what manner they were taken, and that if they had every Man been killed upon the Spot, it was what they ought to have expected in their Circumstances, and what no body could have justly found Fault with; but we will leave these Men to their present Circumstances,

stances, and only ask our Tory Brethren, whether they can say, they have been hardly dealt with, when they recollect, the many scandalous, treasonable, and villanous Reflections they have daily cast on the King, and the Royal Family; there are few of them in their private Capacities, but would have resented the Usage they have given their Sovereign in a more rigid Manner than he has done: And the Tory Ladies, (even from those of the best Fashion, to the *Rosemary-Lane* Bunters,) have been very notorious in this Particular, and many of them continue the same still: The whole Conversation of their Tea-Tables has been Lies, Raillings, and *Billingsgate*, too filthy, silly, and scandalous to repeat: They have given

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en up the common Modesty of
 their Sex, and by turning Poli-
 ticians, have so lower'd their
 Brows, that they have divested
 themselves of that Softness
 that charms Mankind. It has
 been no uncommon Thing to
 see a fine Lady straddle, frown,
 and stare you in the Face, like
 a Grenadier: nay, most of them,
 with the Addition of a Pair of
 Whiskers, would make tolera-
 ble Saracens: how many are
 daily guilty of Petty Treason,
 in drinking Healths to the at-
 tainted Enemies of their Coun-
 try, and Prosperity in too plain
 Terms to their Popish Idol;
 and how few are, or have been
 punished for it. Should a Man
 say, my Lady Betty ----- has
 a Pimple on her Bum, no-
 thing less than a Stab would
 attone

attone for the Offence: but
 the Ladies may say what they
 please of *Her Royal Highness*,
 without Breach of their new fa-
 shion'd Modesty, or good Man-
 ners: great Unmercifulness, per-
 secuting Ministry, that will not
 suffer these poor People, either
 Quality or Mob, to speak Treas-
 on, nor revile the Royal Family,
 without Danger, nay, tho' they
 are true *Church Folks*; bad
 Times! bad Times!

Of the Clergy.

AS my Way in my Pleasures is to begin, and end the Day with those I like best ; so in these my Complaints, I will take the same Method : The greatest Grievance in Life is, to be hurt in our worldly Interest, and next to that, we are for taking Care of our Souls, I only speak as the World acts ; for I find the first Endeavours of Mankind is, to get Wealth and Preferment, (which they call Honour,) that they may indulge themselves, and live merrily in this Life, and they are also very willing, when they come to die, to get a sure Pass to Heaven ; and therefore I think we ought to have a great Regard
for

for the Clergy, especially if, as they tell us, our Pass won't do, unless they sign it: Now at this Time, it is said by those that call themselves good Churchmen, that a great many Orthodox Divines, are neglected and ill used for very small Matters, only because their Consciences are not true Wash Leather: Indeed they were pretty complying, they easily stretched to former Oaths, amongst the rest that of the Abjuration: but now Oaths to his present Majesty are tendered, they shrink from the Size of a Canonical Hat, to that of a Face patch, and are wonderful stiff and unpliant: It is well known, that most of these Gentlemen are merry, honest, jovial Fellows, and drink the Church as heartily as any of the

Bishops

Bishops can do, Ay and to the *BEST* in *Christendom* too, I know it to be true: And is it not a Shame, such Christians should be deprived of their Livings, because they are Enemies to the Government? Nay, they are not such great Enemies as some imagine neither; for they would swear to King *George*, though they hate him, provided he would change the present Ministry, and take in Tories. The Whigs have been always looked upon by these Orthodox Saints as Enemies to the Church: and is it without Reason, when it is so well known, that they have always violently opposed the Church's being independent of the State, and have the Impudence to maintain, according to the Canons, that the King is the

E Head

Head of it : I will be Judge
 by my Good L----- B----- of
 R-----, and the Dean of St.
Patrick, if this is not Atheism,
 Deism, Socinianism, Free-think-
 ing, Presbyterianism, Whoring,
 Drinking, and every Thing that
 is bad : I am sure, I have known
 several honest Whigs, that go
 constantly to Church, graced
 with the abovementioned Epi-
 thets; and I could never learn
 any other Reason for it, than
 that they were violently against
 Priestcraft, and the Dominion of
 these Saints here upon Earth : I
 must beg of you, Sir, to consider
 with your self, whether it is not
 more for the Interest of your
 Country, to get the present
 Ministry chang'd, than to let the
 Church lose such a Set of
Lights: consider their Noble,
 florid

florid Looks, their double Chins,
 their Glorious Ruby Faces,
 which will certainly fade and
 grow languid, if they are not
 re-establish'd : If you do not take
 Care of them, their Iron Con-
 sciences, which formerly could
 batter down any Thing, will
 be turn'd into Lead, and be
 melted by their Afflictions. I
 am afraid the *Halbourn* Doctor,
&c. will soon grow weary of sup-
 porting them, and then, alas!
 what Remedy have they, but to
 repent, grow Religious, and take
 anew those Oaths, which they
 have in Effect taken several
 Years since: Consider, Sir, the
 separate Congregations they
 have got together can be but
 a small Subsistence, being made
 up of Butchers, Herb-Women,
 and Apprentice Boys, and Persons

of the meaner Sort of those Clans: I am certainly inform'd, that a Tavern Boy, and a Journeyman Taylor, are Church-wardens to two of them: Indeed they may fitly enough compare themselves to the Primitive Times by the Meanness of their Followers, but it would be better for them if they could as truly do it by the Simplicity of their Lives: O! did you but know, how the mock Daughters of *Sion* bewail, and lament the Downfal of these sham Martyrs: not a Dram of *Geneva*, but belches out a Curse against the Whig Ministry, for reducing so many sturdy, able bodied Men: it ought to be considered also, that the depriving the Church of so many Men, who no Body pretends to charge with

with having either Morals, Religion, or Honesty, gives our Enemies a great Advantage in spreading their Clamours of the present Dangers of the Church: and with good Reason too, for if you turn out such wicked Men, who do you think will come to the Church: a great Pleasure indeed to any one to hear an Honest Pious Man always telling him of his Faults, and reminding him of his Duty to God and the King: Who can bear to be disturbed in their *CHRISTIAN LIBERTIES*: It is well known, the Jovial Crew lately turn'd out for refusing Oaths, that did not please their Consciences, never did it: and if a Man was honest, that is, would drink and swear for the Church, he was allowed to have the Root of the Matter

(30)

Matter in him, and easily got a safe
Pass: so that upon the whole,
you are humbly desired, and
that with good Reason, by all
Papists, Jacobites, Whores, Bawds,
&c. to do your best to get these
Men prefer'd: they desire, if
possible, you would do it with-
out tendring them the Oaths.

F I N I S.



